

PARISH GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES COMMISSION MEETING -- DECEMBER 17, 2014 -- 6:30 - 7:30 pm . . . Meeting Minutes.

Attendees: Ralph Arnott, Jim Rogosheske, Dave Drajna, Mary Ann Kaiser, Rita Arndorfer, Glenda Burrows, Kathleen Delaune

Absent: Steve Arndorfer, Dave Tucci, Bob Denton

Guests: Beth Robertson, Chair, PLC; Mary Hartz, Parish Nurse

Meeting began with a brief review of 'meeting notes' from our November 19, 2014 meeting. There was nothing additional to add/delete.

Mary Hartz, our Parish Nurse, was invited to talk about the Senior Spirits group. Mary proceeded to describe her role, duties, etc. -- what's working well and if there is an additional assist she may need from our Commission. Some background on Mary: She has previously worked as a 'home care' nurse for 13 years and has been at St. John the Baptist as our Parish Nurse for the past 5 years as of this Fall 2014. Her time 'in office' each week is Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Mary provides administering 'blood pressure' checks . . . notices posted in our Sunday bulletin. She also is heavily involved in doing 'home visits' -- sometimes maybe 4-5 per day. These visits are to those in our Parish unable to attend Mass and other activities. The main focus, per Mary, is having those homebound parishioners know someone in the Parish 'really cares for them', per Mary. Mary mentioned that the 'Senior Spirits' were founded to meet regularly 'to pray' together -- Mary indicated that this key activity is 'not happening too much now'. Ralph, as substitute PLC rep., will recommend Senior Spirits be removed from our Commission.

A recent task per Mary (prior to our Dec. meeting) was to make Christmas 'baskets' for 'seniors'. These were distributed to the homes of many of our Parish seniors. . . and to those in local nursing homes.

As to what our commission can do to assist Mary with her efforts, she stated, and somewhat emphatically, to 'get the word out that more volunteers are needed' ! (I was not sure what the specific efforts the 'volunteers' would do ???).

At Dave Tucci's suggestion we added the Men's Fellowship group to the agenda. Ralph reported that this group, headed by Dave Tucci, meets every Thursday, 6:30-8:00 am, has a current head count of 89 members with about 20-30 members coming to each Thursday morning meeting. The 'age range' is quite broad -- middle ages on up to 'seniors' fill the membership roster. There is a big push now with the group on "respect for life". Members make contributions of donuts weekly and attendees "purchase" donuts during the meetings for \$1. Money collected is used to fund good causes. The 4 Goals of the 'Men's Fellowship' group, adding to the 'primary' mission statement *'to help one another achieve a closer relationship with Jesus Christ'* are:

TRUTH --Exploring, learning and living in The Truth that Jesus Christ teaches in His Church.

EVANGELIZATION -- Bringing the Good News of Jesus into all aspects of our daily lives.

CHARITABLE WORKS -- Leading our families and community by example.

PERSONAL SANCTIFICATION -- Helping each other grow in Faith and Holiness.

Beth Robertson with our PLC made some brief comments regarding 'commission membership'. She indicated that when the new year begins (2015), new members will need to be recruited/appointed and at this time 3 new members will be needed. These 3 new members will replace those that came on board for only 1 year of service. Beth mentioned that longer service times -- like 3 years, would be best, work better and provide better continuity.

Our meeting concluded at 7:30 pm with the next meeting of our Commission scheduled for January 21st, 2015.

Recorder at this meeting: Jim Rogosheske